

ABSTRACT

An apparatus and method for sending and receiving fragmented Audio/Video Control packets using a communication software layer that is separate from a processing software layer. The method and apparatus may be used in a system for transferring copy protected digital audio/video signals between devices. In one embodiment of the present invention, a connection is established between a source and a sink device. Next, a communication layer of code on the source device receives at least one packet of data from the sink device. Next, the communication software on the source sends to the sink a response for each of the packets of data. Next, this embodiment of the source communication software sends all the packets as one group to a processing layer of code on the source device.

15